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12 August 1959
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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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negotiations which may grow out of these, it is unlikely that the USSR will conclude a separate peace treaty with East Germany or turn over access controls to the East Germans. The USSR will from time to time use threats of such action as a form of pressure on the West. The actual physical transfer of controls could be accomplished with little or no warning.

- 2. The USSR continues to maintain its hard position on Berlin as developed at the Geneva foreign ministers' conference and is unlikely to offer any significant new proposals on Berlin pending discussions between President Eisenhower and Khrushchev.
- 3. While there are no reliable indications of a bloc intent to deny Allied or West German access to West Berlin, or to seal off West Berlin in the immediate future, such actions could be taken with little or no warning.
- 4. The West Berlin economic and morale situation continues to be favorable.

6. There have been no significant changes in Soviet capabilities to respond to possible Western actions in the event of turnover, harassment, or blockade.

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NOTE: With the completion of this report, the special committee on the Berlin situation adjourned indefinitely.

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DAILY BRIEF

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Cuban Officials Still Tense in Wake of Abortive Conspiracy

The Cuban armed forces remain alerted and the government is still nervous even though the large-scale conspiracy against it has apparently been suppressed. Further attacks are apparently expected, probably from the armed group led by former Cuban General Pedraza that has been training in the Dominican Republic for some months.

Cuban

authorities have long been alerted to possible landings from the Dominican Republic. Whether or not they take place, the implication of Trujillo agents in the conspiracy will strengthen Cuba's case against the Dominican Republic at the hemisphere foreign ministers' meeting opening in Chile on 12 August.

The planned revolt of a portion of the armed forces under William Alexander Morgan was compromised at the last moment by the defection of one of the plotters,

Morgan is an American citizen who fought against the Batista dictatorship with a guerrilla group independent of Castro's 26 of July Movement and later fell out with Castro. He is reported to have accepted a large sum of money from Trujillo agents to lead a revolt and to have left Florida for Cuba on 5 August. His present whereabouts is unknown, but press accounts of fighting in Las Villas Province--his stronghold during the anti-Batista fighting--indicate that he may have attempted an armed revolt there. There also were unsuccessful attempts to assassinate Fidel Castro and his brother Raul on 8 and 9 August.

Hundreds of arrests during the past four days included chiefly

armed forces personnel held over from the Batista regime and large landowners who had actively opposed Castro's agrarian reform law.

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